



# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

**Prepared by:**  
The Secretariat–Women Fund Tanzania (WFT)  
Empowering Local Women Heroes  
 [www.wft.or.tz](http://www.wft.or.tz)





# ***ANNUAL REPORT, 2024***

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Registered Trustee of Women Fund Tanzania (WFT-T) is the first national feminist Women's Fund in the country and the only funding support mechanism. It was initially registered as an NGO in 2008 under the Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee. In 2019 WFT-T changed its registration to a trusteeship under RITA. WFT fulfills its vision and mission through a two-pronged approach: grant-making, focusing on the local level, and promoting strategic coalition building at the national level for enhanced feminist movement building that is intersectional, intergenerational, inclusive, and empowering. This complementary and mutually reinforcing approach strengthens feminist movement building and enhances a collective organizing power and voice for operational transformation through various platforms.

### Who we are



#### Our Vision

To see a Tanzanian society where women, girls, and children realize their full potential and engage fully in the transformation of their communities to contribute towards their empowerment, social justice, and feminist agenda introduction



#### About Women Fund Tanzania (WFT-T)

The Registered Trustee of Women Fund Tanzania (WFT-T) is the first national feminist Women's Fund in the country and the only funding support mechanism.



#### Our Mission

To contribute to the building of a strong feminist women's movement in Tanzania through grant-making, mobilizing resources, strengthening women's ideological and institutional capacity, and building strategic alliances that are intersectional, intergenerational, and inclusive.



## Strategic Planning Theme and Implementation Period

WFT-T is currently implementing its fourth strategy "Shifting Power collectively" which is embedded in the feminist approaches.



## Strategic Planning Overall Goal

To contribute to empowering women, girls, and children's rights and to strengthen feminist and women's movement building by implementing a functional and empowering funding mechanism in Tanzania.

## Our Values

The strong belief that women's rights/feminist agenda will not be achieved without dismantling unjust and patriarchal systems of power, which continue to oppress and exclude our stakeholders

01

The unconditional recognition of human rights for women, girls, and children regardless of class, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, disability and age

02

A universal culture of acknowledgement, respect and encouragement

03

Leadership based on feminist values and principles

04

Transparency, accountability and integrity

05

Professional Excellence

06

## 1.1 WHAT DO WE DO

We are shifting power collectively; we make the path by walking it, not just walking, but walking mindfully, listening to different voices and issues, and responding in the best way we can with our resources. We want to see Tanzania where women, girls, and children realize their full potential and engage fully in transforming their communities to contribute towards their empowerment, social justice, and feminist agenda.

We work in the following areas:

### **Grant Making and Capacity Strengthening**

We aim to make grants accessible to women's movement(s), women's organizations, women's groups and individual women at the local level, contributing to enhanced capacity and better-equipped stakeholders to protect and promote women's rights.

### **Strengthening the feminist and children's movement**

We aim to strengthen the movement and build strategic alliances and links between women's rights organizations and women's movement (s) in Tanzania and beyond for collective action in achieving women's rights.

### **Resource Mobilization**

We aim to mobilize resources locally, regionally and internationally, supporting the protection and promotion of women's rights and feminist movement building in Tanzania.

### **Strengthening and sustaining a healthy and growing women's Trust Fund**

We aim to maintain and continuously improve a healthy and sustainable organizational base for realizing and delivering on WFT's vision and mission and for delivering on WFT's mandate.

## 2.0 OPERATING CONTEXT

The operating environment for feminist and gender justice initiatives in Tanzania remains dynamic, shaped by political, economic, social, legal, and global factors. Understanding these influences is essential for WFT-T's continued effectiveness.

### 1 Political Context



The political context requires deep feminist analysis to understand present and future dynamics to strategize effective interventions, resist oppressive structures, and advance a transformative agenda for gender justice. Key issues that demand attention include;

- Upcoming local government elections
- The 2025 general election and its impact on feminist political organizing
- The Vision 2050 agenda and its alignment with gender equality and social justice
- Women's meaningful participation in local and national political and decision-making processes
- The persistent and rising rates of gender-based violence
- The shrinking civic space, which limits feminist advocacy and grassroots organizing
- Increased anti-gender equality movements and voices
- Restrictive legal frameworks, including the recently passed President, Members of Parliament, and Councilors' Elections Bill (2023), the Amendment of the Law on Political Parties Bill (2023), and the National Election Commission Bill (2023).

### 2 Women Political Participation

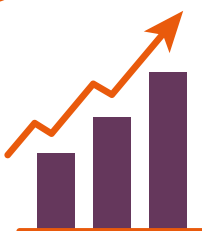


Despite appointing women to key ministerial roles, women's representation in leadership remains alarmingly low, only 5 out of 27 ministers are women. This imbalance demands systemic change to ensure equal participation in decision-making at all levels.

At the 15th Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) meeting on July 29, 2024, President Samia Suluhu Hassan reaffirmed her commitment to economic reforms through the Presidential Commission on Tax Reforms. However, with only 2 women among 8 members, gender imbalance persists, reinforcing the need for inclusive economic policymaking.

Following the Kariakoo market tragedy, the government formed a 19-member task force to assess structural safety. While this response is crucial, women central to Kariakoo's economy remain sidelined in decision-making, with fewer than 3 women on the task force. This exclusion underscores the urgent need for feminist leadership in shaping policies that impact women's lives and livelihoods.

### 3 Economic Context



The economic landscape directly impacts WFT-T's work, particularly in resource mobilization and sustainability:

- Inflation and funding challenges have affected the financial sustainability of grassroots organizations.
- Limited donor funding for feminist movements has intensified the need for innovative resource mobilization strategies.
- Economic inequality disproportionately affects women, limiting their access to opportunities and financial independence.

## 4 Disempowering laws and legal frameworks



Disempowering laws and legal frameworks

Now in its fourth year, WFT-T's Strategic Plan 2021–2025 continues to center feminist and women's movements, driving transformative funding that empowers women, girls, and children. Guided by community voices and lessons learned, our work is rooted in feminist values and four key areas of change.

However, systemic injustices persist. The failure to reform the 1971 marriage laws, which still permit girls as young as 14 to marry with parental or court consent, reflects a blatant disregard for their rights and futures. Additionally, the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children equates men's and women's experiences of violence, weakening efforts to dismantle patriarchal violence and the experiences of women and girls who are more vulnerable with skyrocketing numbers. These realities demand urgent feminist action and accountability.

## 5 Global and Regional Influences



International commitments and regional movements play a significant role in shaping Tanzania's gender equality agenda:

- Global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and AU's Agenda 2063 continue to inform advocacy efforts.
- Regional feminist networks provide solidarity and collective strategies to push for gender justice.
- Donor priorities and shifts in global funding influence the availability of resources for gender equality programs.

## 6 Digital and Technological Trends



Technology presents both opportunities and challenges for feminist advocacy:

- Digital activism and online campaigns have expanded the reach of gender justice movements.
- Online gender-based violence and harassment pose risks to feminist activists and organizations.
- Limited digital access and literacy in rural areas hinder widespread engagement in feminist initiatives.

Despite these challenges, the women's movement remains hopeful that 2025 will bring opportunities for progress. WFT-T continues to adapt its strategies to navigate this complex landscape and strengthen feminist movements for lasting impact.

## 3.0 OUR 2024 PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) continues to play a pivotal role in fostering gender justice and amplifying feminist movements in Tanzania. Through the **"Shifting Power Collectively"** strategy, WFT-T is committed to redistributing resources, advocating for feminist leadership, and strengthening grassroots movements.

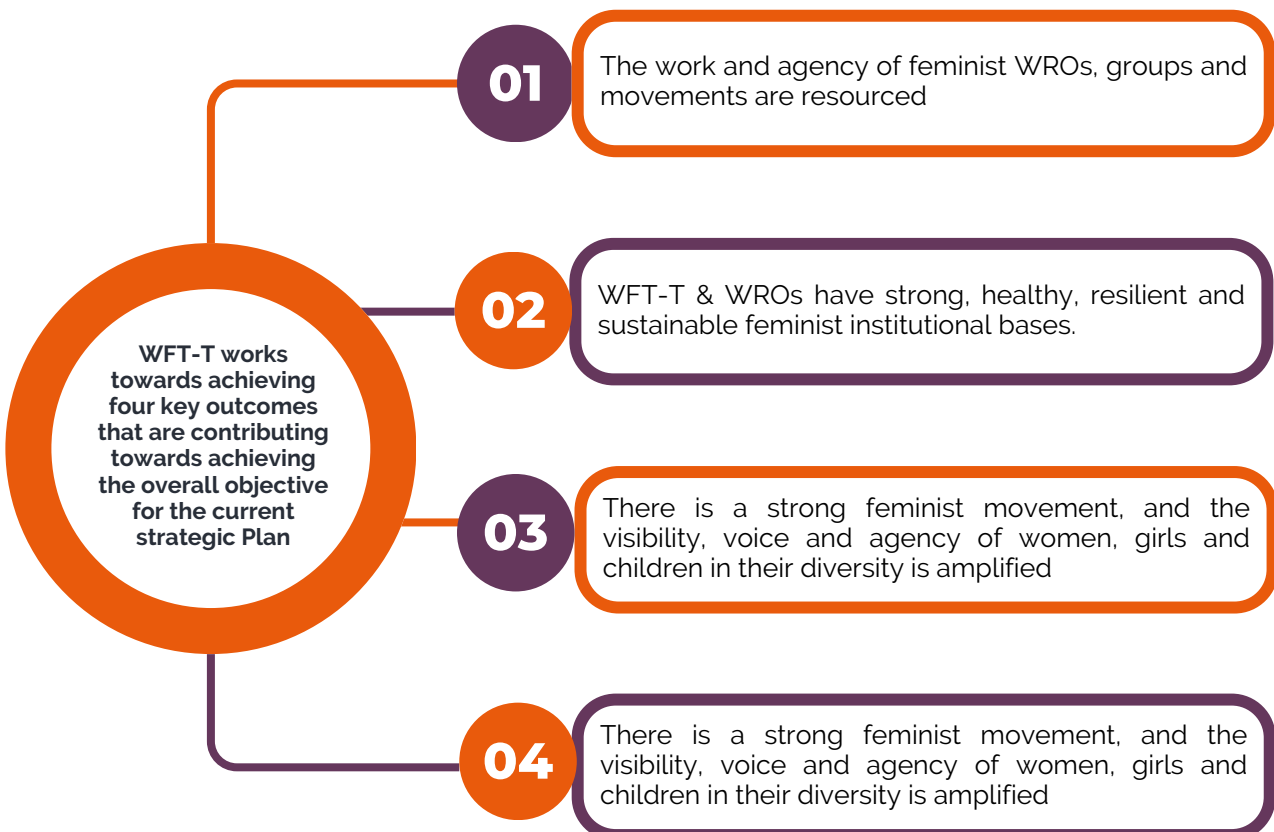
To achieve the above-highlighted outcomes, Women Fund Tanzania Trust has been implementing several interventions distributed across the five strategies, namely, Grantmaking and Management, Capabilities Strengthening and Learning, Strengthening the Feminist and Children's Movement, Resource Mobilization and Financial Sustainability, and Strengthening and Sustaining a Healthy and Growing Women's Trust Fund.

The implementation of programs and projects has been facilitated at national and local levels through grantee partners, Feminist Movements, and Coalitions through their platforms. This report summarises major achievements/impacts, challenges, and lessons in 2024. The report provides an in-depth analysis of how WFT-T's interventions have contributed to the overall mission of promoting gender equality, social justice, and the rights of women and girls.

### 3.1 WTF-T PROGRAMMATIC OUTCOMES

The year 2024 marks the fourth year of bringing the WFT-T Strategic Plan 2021–2025 to life, a plan deeply informed by feminist principles, community voices, and lived experiences of women, girls, children, and other marginalized groups. Rooted in collective learning and movement building and strengthening, WFT-T remains steadfast in its commitment to resourcing and amplifying the power of women, girls, and children, while strengthening feminist and women's movements in Tanzania through a transformative and solidarity-based funding model.

This mission is anchored in WFT-T's vision of justice and collective voicing and action, guided by our core feminist values and driven by four key areas of transformative change.



## 3.2 OUR PROGRAMMATIC STRATEGY

To advance these transformative goals, Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) has been driving change through five interwoven feminist strategies:

- **Resourcing feminist movements** through grantmaking and equitable fund management
- **Strengthening capacities and fostering collective learning** within movements and organizations
- **Power-building within feminist and children's movements** to drive systemic change
- **Ensuring resource justice and financial sustainability** for long-term movement resilience
- **Nurturing and sustaining a thriving, feminist-led Women's Trust Fund** to uphold autonomy and collective power

These strategies have been brought to life through deep partnerships with grantee partners, feminist movements, and coalitions activating change at both national and local levels. This report reflects on the major achievements, impacts, challenges, and lessons from the year 2024, offering insights to strengthen our collective feminist journey.



### 3.3 SNAPSHOT OF OUR KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024

To achieve the above-highlighted outcomes, Women Fund Tanzania Trust has been implementing several interventions distributed across the five strategies, namely, Grantmaking and management, capabilities strengthening and learning, strengthening the feminist and children's movement, resource mobilization and financial sustainability, and strengthening and sustaining a healthy and growing women's Trust Fund. The implementation of programs and projects has been facilitated at national and local levels through grantee partners, Feminist Movements and Coalitions through their platforms. This report summarizes major achievements/impacts, challenges, and lessons in the year 2024

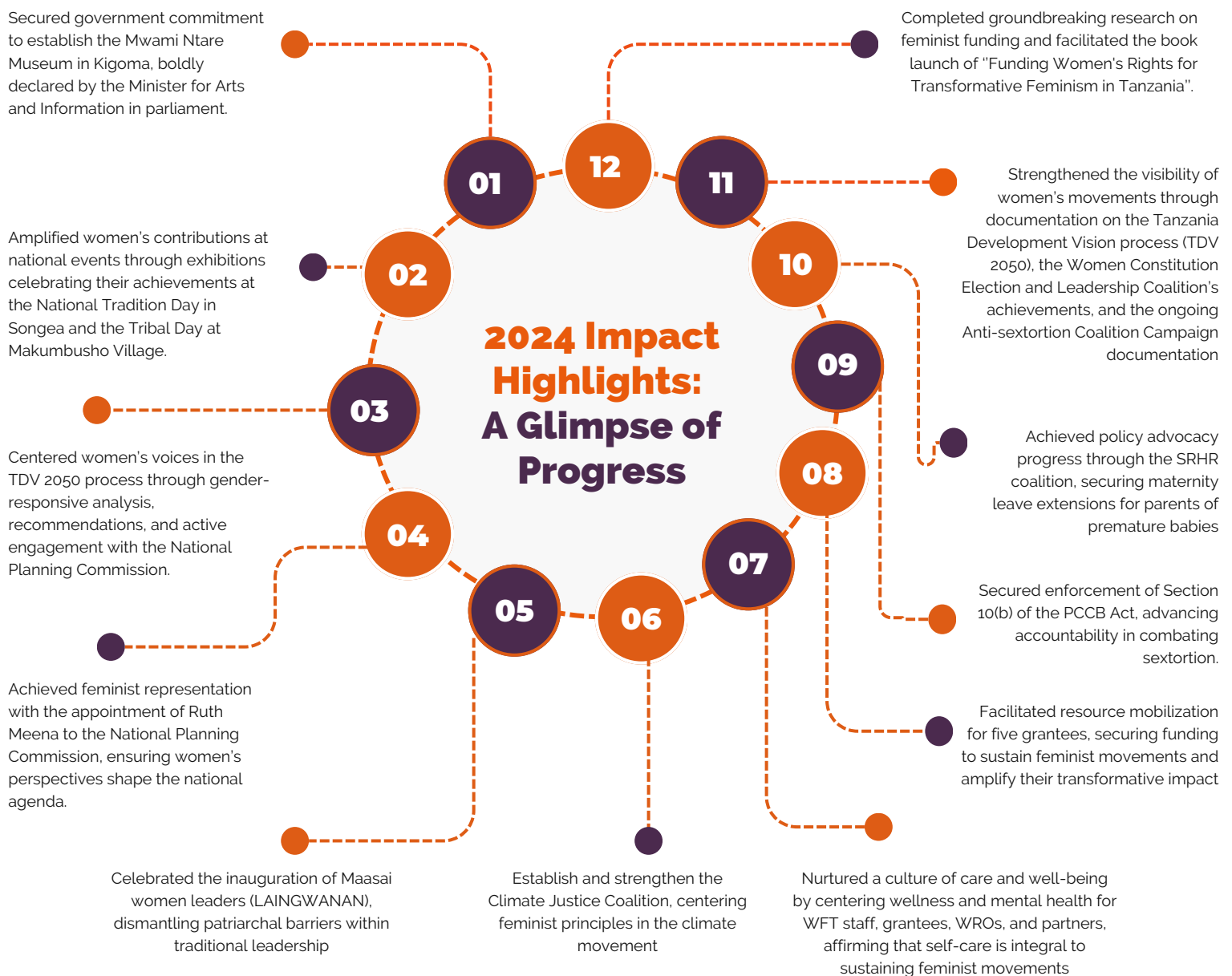
The Glimpse of 2024 succusses towards archiving the outcomes



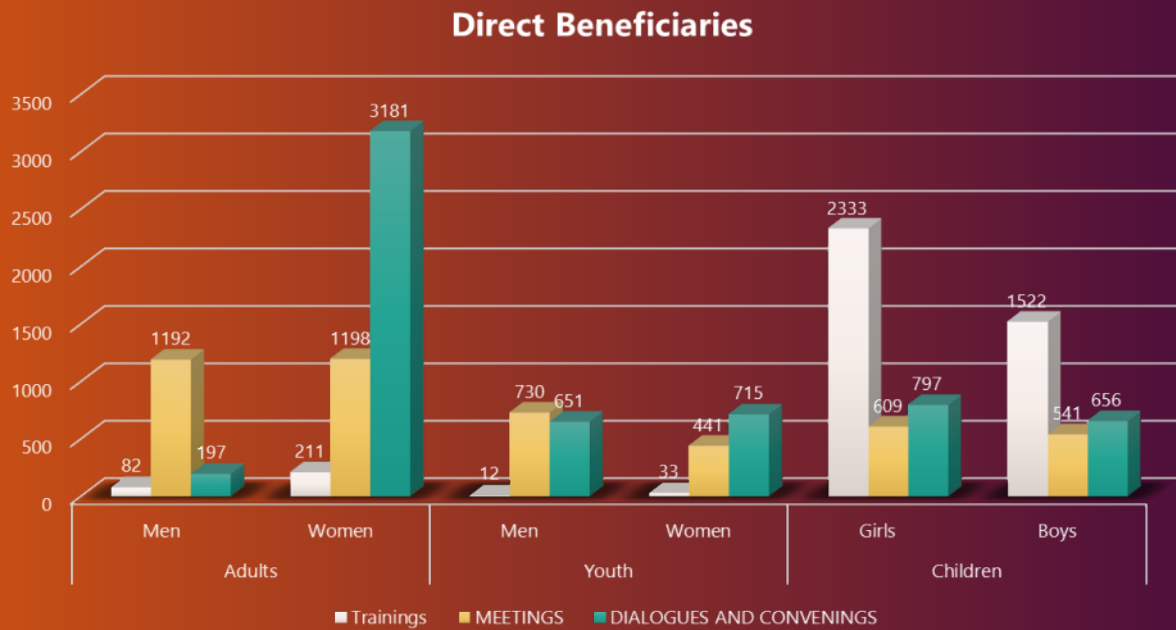
### 3.3.1 2024 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS: A GLIMPSE OF PROGRESS

In 2024, we achieved powerful milestones through intergenerational, intersectional, and collaborative feminist strategies, deepening our commitment to movement-building and transformative justice. Our partnership with Her Initiative and the African Women's Development Fund (AWDF) led to Lydia Charles Moyo winning the 2024 Global Citizen Prize for her groundbreaking work empowering girls through the Panda digital platform, securing a USD 200,000 award to scale her impact.

In addition, WFT-T supported MAACOGOPO in Mafia securing urgent funding from the Urgent Action Fund (UAF) to support communities affected by the Rufiji flood. Facilitated funding for ASED to strengthen HIV prevention and address the misuse of ARVs. YAWE an organization based in Shinyanga, received grants from Doctors with Africa-CUAMM to advance Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and from Climate KIC for climate justice advocacy. WFT-T's efforts continue to drive feminist transformation:

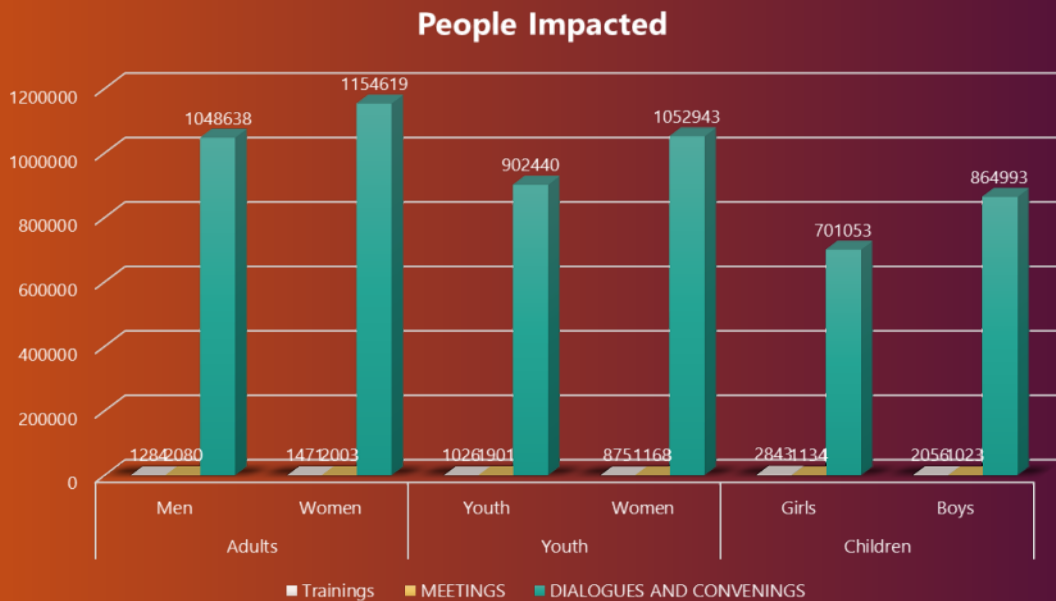


## PEOPLE DIRECTLY REACHED BY OUR INTERVENTIONS



**Graph:** People directly reached by our interventions

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE IMPACTED BY THE INTERVENTION, BEYOND TRAINING



**Graph:** Number of people impacted by the intervention, beyond training

## 3.4 GRANT MAKING AND MANAGEMENT

Women Fund Tanzania Trust's (WFT-T) grant-making strategy is an intentional act of solidarity, resistance, and movement-building. We are committed to resourcing feminist, women-led, children's rights, and social justice organizations with a strong focus on grassroots movements to disrupt systemic inequalities and advance gender justice. Through inclusive, participatory, and intentional grant-making, we amplify the voices, power, and agency of marginalized communities while strengthening feminist organizing at all levels.

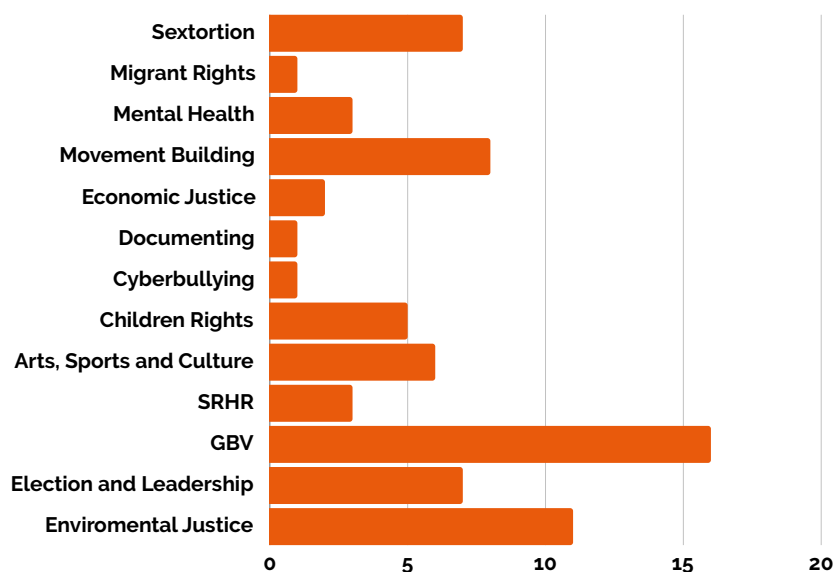
### Strengthening Feminist Grant-Making & Accountability

In 2024, WFT-T deepened its commitment to feminist-informed grant management by refining tools and processes to enhance transparency, accountability, and movement-centered impact:

- Strengthened grant management systems by updating the call-for-proposals framework and the Grantee Reporting Form, ensuring accessibility and alignment with feminist principles.
- Invested in capacity-building for staff, partners, and board committees through engagement in learning spaces, including the MEL Community of Practice and participatory grant-making networks.
- Enhanced technological capacity by integrating Salesforce, with a dedicated consultant ensuring seamless adoption to increase efficiency, transparency, and accessibility in grant-making processes.
- Engaged with feminist and social justice organizations at national, regional, and global convenings, ensuring our grant-making strategy remains responsive to emerging trends and movement needs in Tanzania and beyond.

### Impactful Feminist Resourcing in 2024

83 grants awarded from January to December 2024, directly resourcing feminist agendas and strengthening the women's movement in Tanzania. All grantees participated in feminist induction sessions, equipping them with movement-centered tools for effective implementation and sustainability. Through this intersectional, feminist-centered, and solidarity-driven approach, WFT-T remains a key enabler of feminist organizing, movement-building, and systemic change resourcing resistance, amplifying collective power, and advancing justice and agency for marginalized communities particularly women, girls, children, and people with disabilities.



**Graph:** A bar graph showing approved grants by thematic areas

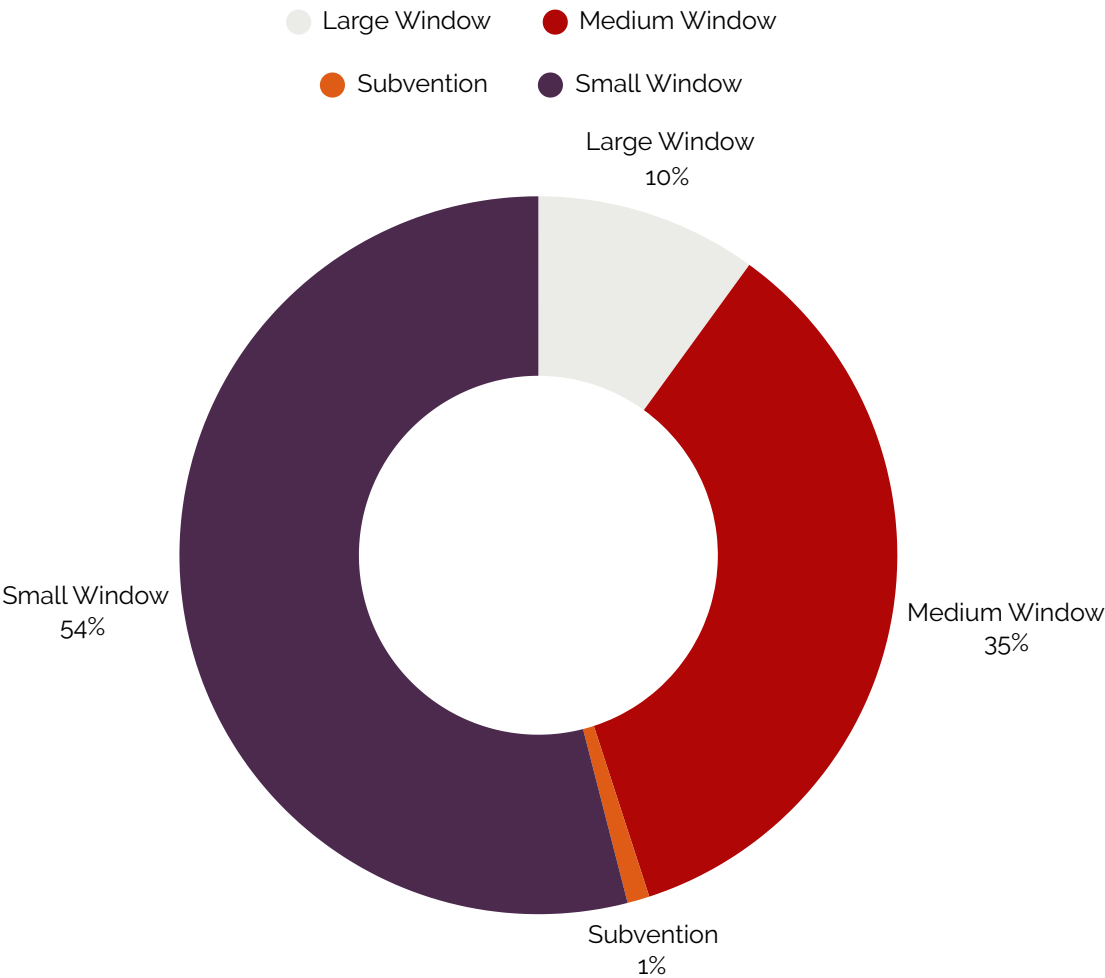
**83** grantees were supported, exceeding the planned target of 60 by 23 organizations, representing an increase of approximately **38.33%**. This increase is attributed to additional funding received through fundraising efforts in 2024.



With the support of the Global Fund, Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) is deepening its commitment to resourcing feminist movements and transforming feminist funding ecosystems. Grounded in solidarity, collective power, and justice, WFT-T is documenting the transformative journeys of grantees such as Wote Sawa, MIMUTIE, Door of Hope, Light for Domestic Workers, Sauti ya Wanawake Ukerewe, Kipunguni, SUKITA, ensuring that the lived experiences, leadership, and impact of feminist and women-led organizations are seen, heard, and celebrated.

By amplifying these voices and movements, WFT-T reinforces its unwavering commitment to feminist resourcing, collective voicing and action, and dismantling systems of oppression and discrimination ensuring that feminist movements remain sustained, visible, and powerful in advancing social justice.

### A pie chart showing approved grant per window



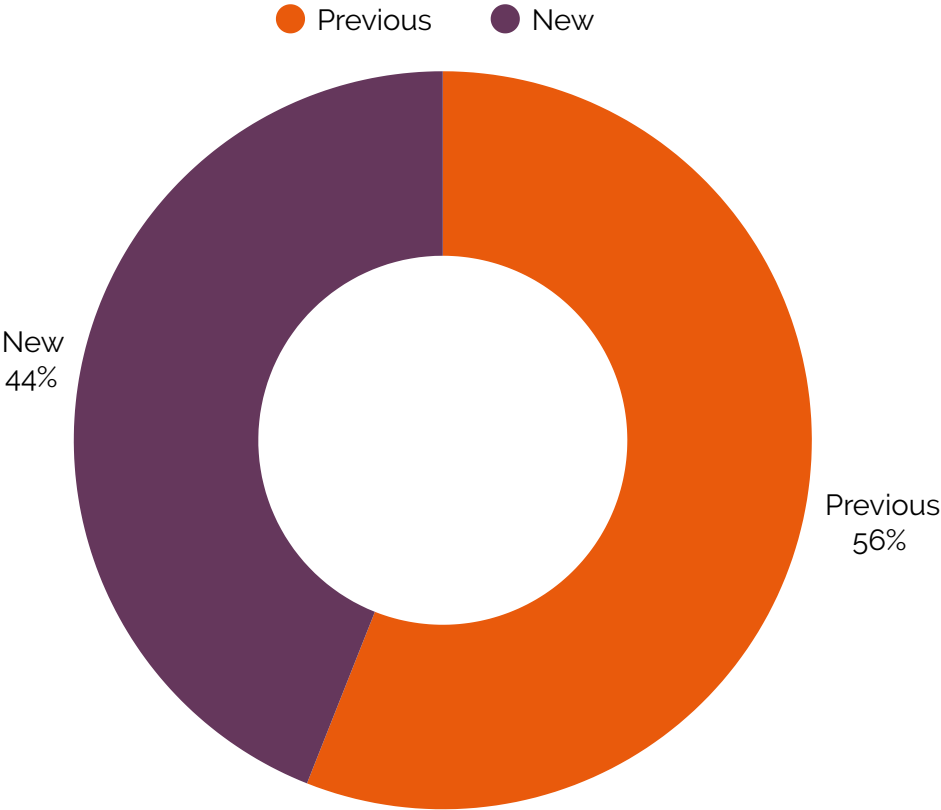
**Graph:** A pie chart showing approved grant per window



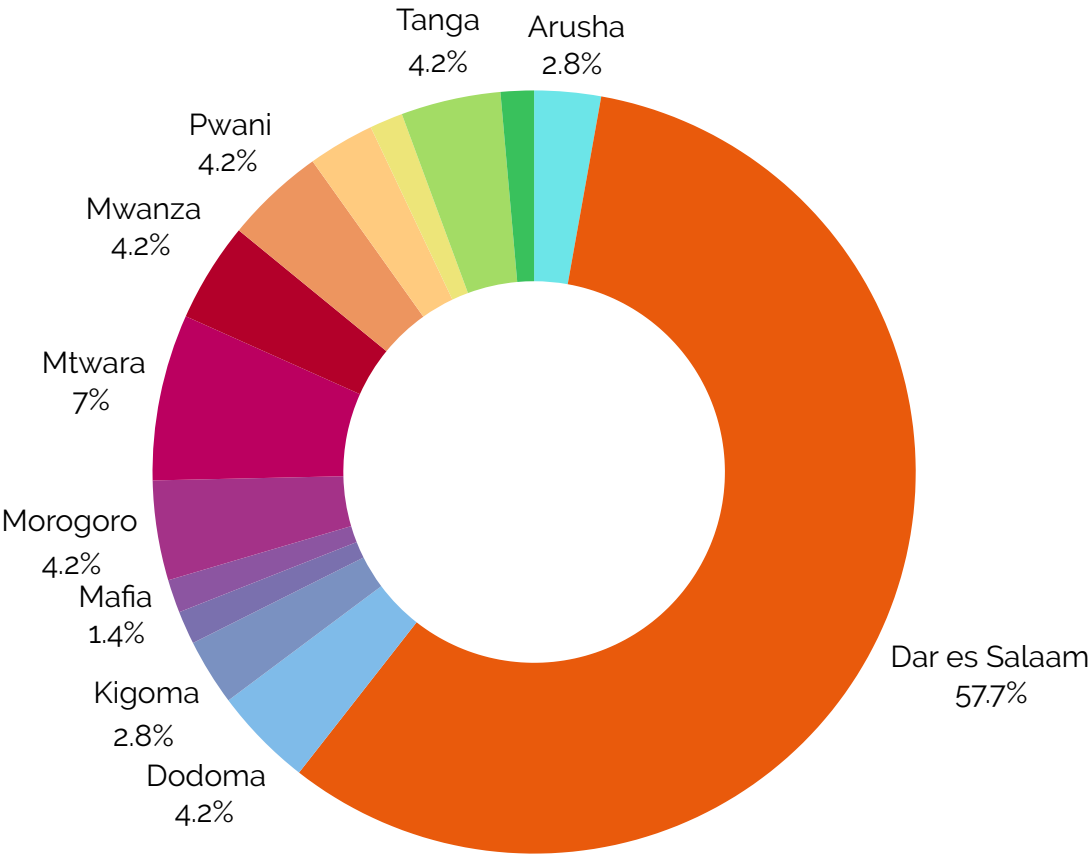
A total of Tanzanian Shillings **One Billion Eight Hundred Thirty-Nine Million Six Hundred Thirty-Six and Eighteen Cents (TZS 1,839,636.18)** was resourced to grantee partners and movement actors, contributing to the achievement of the milestones.



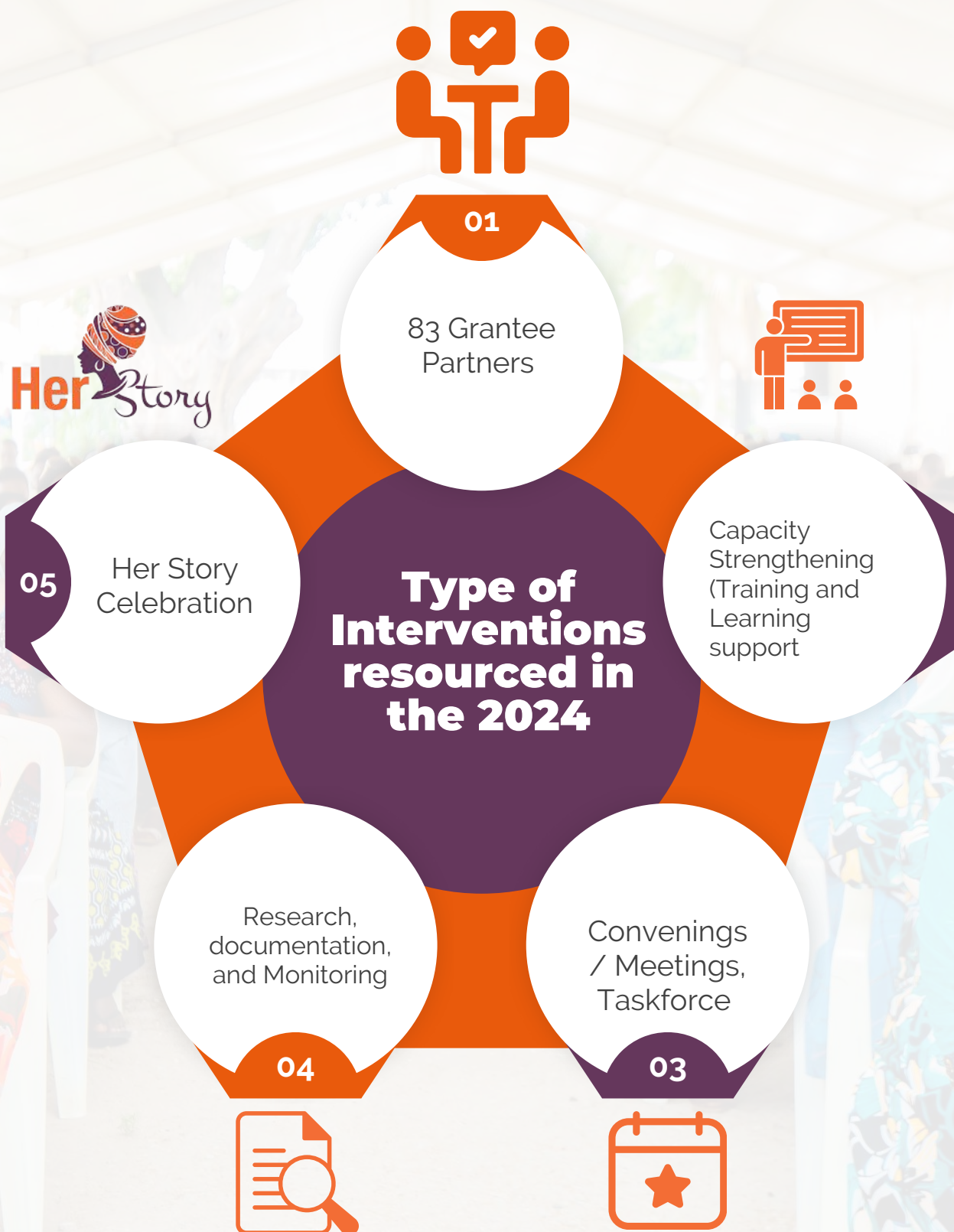
**A pie chart showing grantees ratio and Regions**



**A pie chart showing grant Regions**



# Type of Interventions resourced in the 2024



### 3.4.1 THE IMPACT OF OUR GRANTS

## 01.

## WROs and Movement Strongly Supported

### Lydia Charles Moyo's Global Citizen Prize 2024 Award

When Her Initiative was still taking root, Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) stood alongside them and resourcing their vision, amplifying their power, and walking in solidarity through every step of their journey. From an emerging initiative to a force for feminist economic justice, WFT-T witnessed their unwavering commitment to disrupting systemic inequalities.

Today, that journey has led to a powerful milestone. Lydia Charles Moyo, Executive Director of the Panda digital platform, was named as one of the six recipients of the prestigious 2024 Global Citizen Prize, a recognition of her bold leadership in dismantling poverty and advancing economic empowerment for girls and young women.

The Global Citizen Prize winners were celebrated at the Global Citizen NOW Action Summit on May 1–2, 2024, in New York, USA, a powerful recognition of activists and changemakers driving systemic change.

Among them, Lydia Charles Moyo was awarded USD 200,000 for her transformative work in advancing economic justice for girls and young women. This milestone is a testament to the power of feminist leadership, movement-centered resourcing, and the radical impact of collective action.

Lydia's recognition reflects not only her dedication but also the continued impact of WFT-T's strategic partnerships, rooted in solidarity, feminist funding, and unwavering commitment to resourcing changemakers who are building a more just and liberated world.



Photo: A historic moment, Lydia Charles Moyo's Global Citizen Prize 2024 Award

## 02.

## Dismantling of patriarchal systems in Maasai Community

The historic inauguration of six Maasai women as customary leaders (Laingwanan) marks a powerful rupture in patriarchal traditions that have long excluded women from leadership. This milestone is not just a victory for Maasai women, it is a moment of collective triumph for all Tanzanian women, feminist movements, and generations fighting for gender justice.

By stepping into these leadership roles, these women are shattering systemic barriers, reclaiming their rightful place in decision-making spaces, and redefining power on their own terms.

This achievement signals a radical shift in perceptions, dismantling oppressive structures that have silenced women's leadership for centuries. It's still a long way to go, but signs through these women signify a future that is more inclusive and brighter for today and tomorrow's women leaders.

Beyond this historic win, a resounding call to action was made for women's full participation in the upcoming elections. Feminist organizers emphasized the urgency of strategic collaboration to:

- Address economic injustices that limit women aspirants' access to political spaces.
- Dismantle sextortion and political violence, which serve as tools of exclusion.
- Remove systemic barriers that stand in the way of achieving 50/50 gender representation in governance.

These efforts are not just about women being at the table, they are about transforming the table itself. This is a critical step in the feminist agenda for liberation, ensuring that women's voices, leadership, and power shape Tanzania's democratic future.



Photo: A historic moment as 6 Maasai women are inaugurated as Laingwanan (customary leaders), marking a significant step towards gender equality and the dismantling of patriarchal norms within the Maasai community ©WFT-T

### 03.

## Enhanced the Capacity of the Feminist Climate Justice Coalition

Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T), in partnership with Mission Inclusion and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is leading the Regenerative Seascapes for People, Planet, and Nature program across Mozambique, Kenya, Madagascar, Comoros, and Tanzania.

This transformative initiative strengthens gender-responsive climate justice solutions, empowering women and youth with the knowledge, tools, and resources to engage in nature-based value chains that nurture climate resilience and economic empowerment.

At the heart of this initiative is the commitment to ensure women's active participation in decision-making and leadership within the blue economy, centering their voices and leadership in spaces historically dominated by patriarchal systems.

Significant strides have been made, with target group mapping in progress, paving the way for capacity-building programs that are designed to amplify the skills, leadership, and power of women and youth. This work is already yielding tangible outcomes, with women's groups stepping up as powerful agents of change, engaging in coalitions and accessing new opportunities for growth and advocacy.

This initiative is more than just a project; it's a movement for inclusive, sustainable economic engagement that drives meaningful transformation across the Western Indian Ocean region, fostering collective empowerment, justice, and environmental stewardship.

A baseline study conducted across 16 regions in Tanzania and Zanzibar, with 60 respondents (44 women and 16 men), uncovered deep gaps in climate justice awareness, particularly in rural communities.

The study illuminated the disproportionate impact of climate change on agriculture, water, energy, and infrastructure, with women and marginalized groups bearing the heaviest burden.

Key barriers identified include limited access to climate information and financial resources, which are significant obstacles to meaningful participation in climate justice initiatives. These findings underscore the urgent need for inclusive, accessible solutions that center the voices and leadership of women and marginalized communities in the fight for climate justice.



Photo: Climate Justice Coalition Member during a wellness session at Nendiwe Feminist Center ©WFT-T



Photo: A visit to Chimbachi Youth Group for WFTT along with MI Kenya and TZ team during Coordination meeting in Tanga, the visit aimed at learning from the group about crab fattening ©WFT-T

## 04.

## Strengthened coalition-CWCEL and enhanced agenda clarity

The feminist agenda of dismantling oppressive systems, values, and norms was boldly advanced during the National Convening at TGNP on May 20th and 21st, 2024. This gathering was a powerful moment to strengthen the feminist movement and amplify the voices of women in shaping democratic processes.

Under the campaign theme **"Agenda ya Mwanamke, Turufu ya Ushindi"** (Women's Agenda, the Key to Victory), the convening highlighted the central role of women's leadership and agendas as critical in shaping leadership and democracy.

Key moments included a profound reflection on the journey of the CWCEL coalition and a strong call to action for increased women's participation in the upcoming elections.

This platform nurtured collective feminist strategies, ensuring greater clarity in advancing feminist priorities and securing women's representation in governance and decision-making spaces. The convening underscored the urgency of centered, transformative feminist leadership in the political and democratic landscape.



Photo: Participants during the National Convening at TGNP on May 20th and 21st, 2024. ©WFT-T

## 05.

### Increased Women's Participation in Development Processes: Tanzania Development Vision 2050

The National Convening at TGNP (May 20–21, 2024) was a powerful step in dismantling oppressive systems and amplifying women's leadership in democratic processes. Under the theme "Agenda ya Mwanamke, Turufu ya Ushindi" (Women's Agenda, the Key to Victory), the convening reaffirmed that feminist leadership is essential in shaping governance.

Key moments included reflections on the CWCEL coalition's journey and a strong call to action for women's increased participation in upcoming elections. This gathering strengthened collective feminist strategies, ensuring clear priorities for advancing women's representation in decision-making spaces and reinforcing the urgency of transformative feminist leadership.

FT-T and WILDAF led a feminist-driven process to ensure women's voices shaped Tanzania's Country Development Vision 2050 (TDV 2050). Rooted in inclusivity and justice, this initiative engaged national decision-makers, securing commitments to a gender-responsive vision.

On July 12, 2024, over 300 women gathered at TGNP Grounds to define priorities for the nation's future. Through collective dialogue, they contributed key recommendations, ensuring a feminist agenda that reflects women's needs, dreams, and leadership in shaping Tanzania's development plans and strategies.



# +300

Women gathered at TGNP Grounds



The profile and visibility of the women's and children's movements were significantly enhanced during the Herstory Festival 2024, which celebrated the leadership and contributions of Mwami Theresa Ntare II, Tanzania's first female paramount chief. This milestone event, organized by the Herstory Coalition, highlighted the groundbreaking role of women in Tanzanian history.

The festival, attended by high-level national officials, included remarks from Minister for Arts and Culture, Dr. Damas Ndumbaro, who emphasized the importance of recognizing and preserving women's roles in Tanzanian history. This celebration not only honored Mwami Theresa Ntare II but also reinforced the broader movement of amplifying the voices and contributions of women across the country.



**Photo:** The Minister of Arts and Culture, Dr Damas Ndumbaro during Mwami Theresa Ntare II -Annual Kestoria Festival. ©WFT-T ©WFT-T



**Photo:** The Minister of Arts and Culture, Dr Damas Ndumbaro during Mwami Theresa Ntare II -Annual Kestoria Festival. ©WFT-T

## 07.

## Responses on the Emerging -Women rights violation issues and safety

In response to the tragic killing of albino Asimwe Novart, WFT-T provided a subvention to coordinate community engagement efforts, raise awareness, and mobilize action to prevent such atrocities.

This intervention underscores WFT-T's dedication to challenging human rights violations and advocating for the safety, dignity, and well-being of marginalized communities, with a focus on uplifting those most at risk.

Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) responded swiftly and with deep solidarity to the harassment of sex workers by authorities, offering funding to its grantees for legal support and representation. In alignment with feminist principles of justice and care.

Grantee worked alongside women and girls to ensure that the media narrative did not further dehumanize or exploit them.

Together, they stood in solidarity, affirming the humanity of the women, recognizing them as people first, beyond what they do.

This collective support led to the successful release of all individuals affected and provided a safe space for women to engage in critical conversations about how to navigate the situation, reclaim their agency, and protect their families, especially their children.

This effort highlights WFT-T's unwavering commitment to protecting vulnerable groups and ensuring dignity and justice for all.

GLOBAL TV  
online



# BREAKING NEWS

## Majina ya Waliohusika na Mauaji ya Asimwe.

## 3.5 CAPACITY STRENGTHENING AND LEARNING

Through the Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) and information sessions with EVAWC Grantees, capacity gaps were identified, leading to the development of a strategic action plan. The intervention process was then launched in the 3rd and 4th quarters, with a focus on empowering grantees to strengthen their organizational capacities and ensure the achievement of collective feminist goals.

On International Women's Day 2024, the Nendiwe Feminist Wellness Coaching Centre, in collaboration with the Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy, organized a transformative training event aimed at empowering female lecturers on issues of feminism, mental health, and well-being. This gathering was a pivotal moment for fostering solidarity, celebrating intersectionality, and advocating for proactive feminist change within the academic environment, ensuring that women's voices and well-being are prioritized in spaces of learning and leadership.



Photo: Participants at the Feminist Climate Justice training, discussing the intersection of climate change and wellness. ©WFT-T

### CLIMATE JUSTICE TRAINING

In partnership with the Feminist Climate Justice and the GCCTZ coalition, WFT-T organized a transformative training for 40 participants focused on climate change and climate justice. The event deeply explored the intersections of climate justice, wellness, and feminism, expanding participants' understanding of how these issues are interconnected.

his collective learning experience was pivotal in the creation of a seven-member task force, which is now leading the development of a strategic agenda to guide the coalition's future initiatives, ensuring that feminist principles remain at the heart of the movement for climate justice.

### FEMINIST DIALOGUE AND ORGANIZING

During this period, WFT-T remained committed to strengthening the connections between grantees and potential funders.

Our efforts included providing reference letters and facilitating direct communication with donors, leading to the establishment of new partnerships and funding opportunities.

For example, the Shinyanga Press Club successfully secured a partnership with the Union of Tanzania Press Clubs, while Her Initiative was recommended for support from the African Women's Development Fund.

These collaborations exemplify WFT-T's continued dedication to fostering sustainable growth and empowering feminist movements through resource mobilization.



Photo: WFT-T staff and grantees participate in a networking session to connect with potential donors and partners. ©WFT-T



Photo: WFT-T Partners and consultants engage in a reflective session to assess the impact of the VAC prevention initiative. ©WFT-T

## CAPACITY BUILDING: FEEDBACK AND REFLECTIONS

As part of our ongoing efforts to improve capacity, WFT-T, along with other IIDC partners, organized a physical meeting with consultants to evaluate our VAC prevention initiative. This session provided invaluable feedback, which will inform the next phase of our work. A significant outcome was the presentation of the Thubutu Africa Initiative as a case study at the "Words Matter" global conference on verbal abuse against children.

## EXPANDING THE GRANT-MAKING COMMUNITY

This year, 177 new grant applicants were added to our database, reflecting our commitment to inclusivity and fostering diverse perspectives within the women's rights movement

 **177** New grant applicants were added to our database



Photo: New grant applicants representing diverse voices and communities across Tanzania and beyond. ©WFT-T



Photo: WFT-T staff and board members engaged in an environmental justice training session to deepen their understanding of climate and gender justice. ©WFT-T

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TRAINING

In alignment with our dedication to capacity-building, WFT-T staff, and board committee members participated in environmental justice training conducted by the Nendiwe Feminist Wellness and Coaching Centre. This session enhanced their understanding of the intersection between climate justice and feminist principles, further strengthening our commitment to inclusive and sustainable change.



### 3.6 FEMINIST MOVEMENT STRENGTHENING

Movement building in Tanzania is facing various challenges, requiring constant reflection on our work through a **feminist lens** that upholds **equity, solidarity, and inclusivity**. Women Fund Tanzania (WFT-T) remains committed to embedding **feminist principles** within the Coalition on **Women's Election and Leadership** (WCEL).

As part of this effort, we conducted a thorough review of the movement's movement and its membership, which illuminated several challenges, including **conflicting agendas, financial limitations, and shifting priorities**. This reflective process underscores our commitment to continuously strengthening the coalition and addressing the systemic barriers hindering progress toward a more strong and united feminist movement in the country.

In response, a task force was formed and produced a form embodying feminist principles, inviting members to reaffirm their commitment to our shared goals. Through emails, national convening, and the Herstory Annual Festival, 219 members have reaffirmed their commitment to the shared goals of advancing gender equality and empowerment. Moving forward, the coalition has agreed to strengthen the movement within grassroots communities in Dar es Salaam and at the zonal level.

Our movement continues to be guided by feminist principles that prioritize inclusivity, empowerment, and community-led solutions. One of the most notable events was the Women's Election and Leadership Coalition meeting, where we reflected on the lessons learned from our past efforts and strategized on the way forward. Another major achievement was our participation in the National Convening, where we discussed strategies for advancing women's leadership across Tanzania



Photo: Participants at the National Convening discussing key strategies for advancing women's leadership in Tanzania ©WFT-T

## A: SHINYANGA EVAWC SYMPOSIUM

In Shinyanga, we convened a symposium focused on Ending Violence Against Women and Children (EVAWC), bringing together community leaders, activists, and government representatives to address critical issues of gender-based violence in the region.



Photo: EVAWC working group Press release in Shinyanga, where leaders and activists unite for a common cause: Ending Violence Against Women and Children ©WFT-T



Photo: EVAWC working group Press release in Shinyanga, where leaders and activists unite for a common cause: Ending Violence Against Women and Children ©WFT-T

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“Due to the commendable work you are doing to support the government in ending violence, the government will provide all the necessary support needed to facilitate the process of attaining justice for the victims of violence. Moreover, among the duties of the District Commissioner’s Office is to receive reports from NGOs and act upon them. I urge you to utilize that opportunity for the benefit of the beneficiaries of your projects.”

★★★★★

**Hon. Johari Samizi,**  
The District Commissioner

“

“In the past, positive social and gender norms were highly prevalent in our societies. As traditional leaders, we are delighted to observe NGOs initiating efforts to promote the restoration and practice of these norms. We are willing to partner with you to ensure that these positive values are maintained in our communities. Feel free to reach out to us at any time for support on this matter”.

★★★★★

**Chief Njage Kidola II,**  
The Sukuma Head Chief

“

“Shinyanga District Council has benefitted much from the presence of this Working Group since they are collaborating with the Government to reduce violence within communities, including early pregnancy marriages. I pledged that the Council will continue to collaborate with them and provide conducive environments for their work without any hindrance.”

★★★★★

**Ms. Aisha Omary,**  
The Council NPAVAWC Coordinator

“

“NGOs have played a crucial role in assisting the police force in collecting and organising evidence for court cases. Through their collective efforts, we have successfully incriminated the accused, resulting in jail sentences even in cases where evidence was previously difficult to obtain. Therefore, the Police Gender and Children Desk (PGCD) will continue to leverage the capabilities of these NGOs to expedite justice for victims of violence”

★★★★★

**Take love Ayo,**  
PGCD Representative.

Other women's rights organizations have also engaged with diverse groups of women to address health issues, gender-based violence, and community women's leadership.

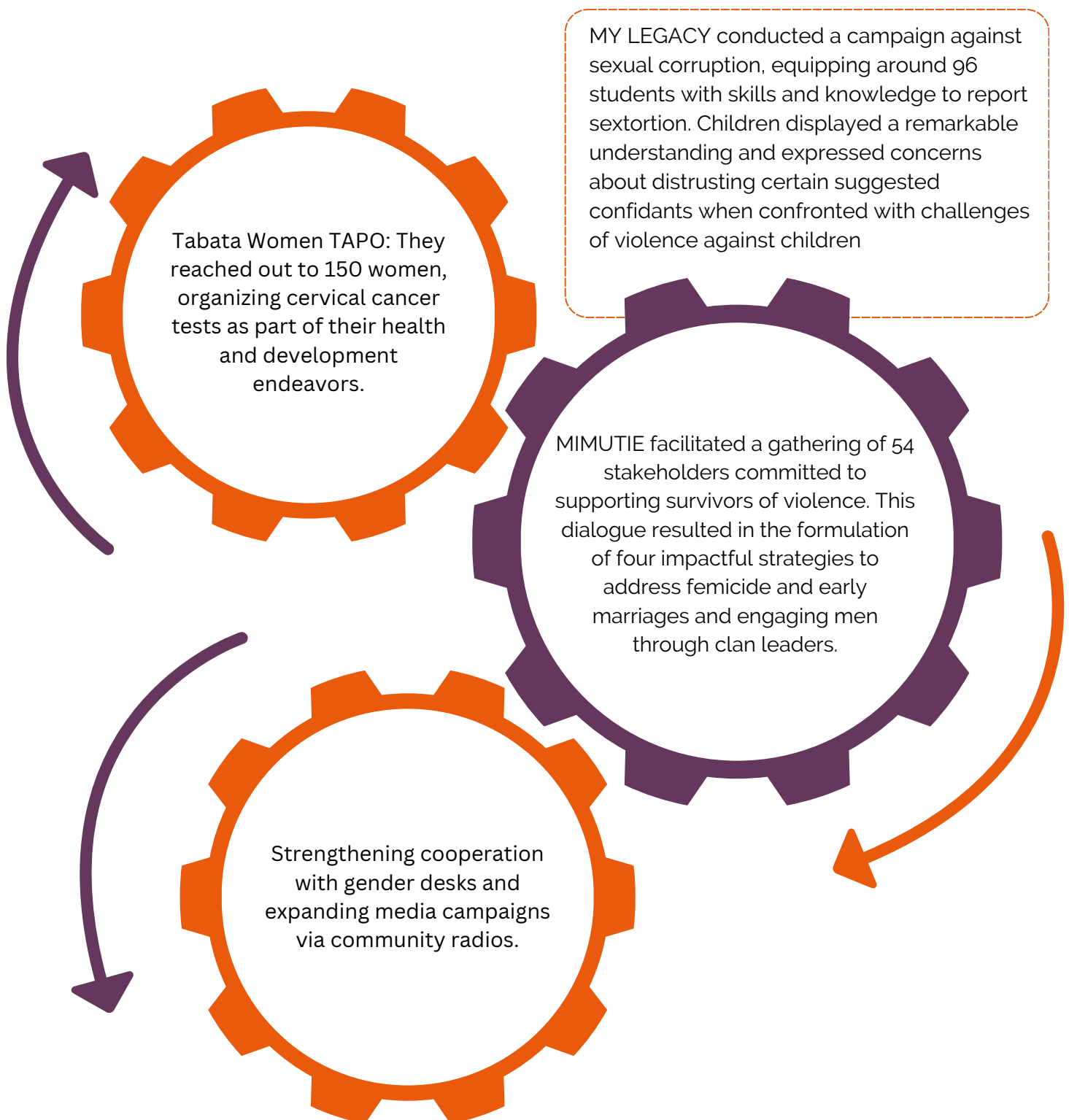




Photo: A historic moment: Maasai women leaders taking their rightful place in decision-making at the inaugural ceremony of LAINJWANAN ©WFT-T

## B: NATIONAL CONVENING: ADVANCING FEMINIST AGENDAS

The National Convening, held on May 20th-21st, 2024, was a powerful space dedicated to amplifying women's voices in democratic processes. The gathering emphasized the critical need for gender-responsive constitutional and legal frameworks while addressing the barriers that hinder women's full participation in the electoral process.

Despite setbacks in the coalition's recommendation for gender representation, the convening sparked a collective and resolute call for increased women's participation in future elections. It also strengthened our commitment to advocating for a supportive environment that nurtures and sustains women's leadership, ensuring that women's voices continue to drive social, political, and economic transformation.

## C: WOMEN'S ELECTION AND LEADERSHIP: POLICY REVIEW AND GENDER EQUITY

The Coalition on Women's Election and Leadership remains at the forefront of advocating for equitable representation and gender justice in leadership and decision-making roles.

Despite ongoing challenges with parliamentary recognition, the coalition has made significant strides in advancing policy and law reforms that center gender equality.

Notably, the coalition successfully proposed recognizing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) as a criminal offense and has led campaigns against gender discrimination in elections. By mobilizing both male and female parliamentarians, the coalition has played a pivotal role in pushing forward milestones in the fight for gender equality and inclusion, ensuring that women's voices and leadership are integral to the democratic process.



Photo: A pivotal moment for women's political participation: The launch of the Women's Election Manifesto, a tool for advocacy and change ©WFT-T



Photo: A radio interview with one of feminist actors. ©WFT-T

## D: WOMEN'S ELECTION MANIFESTO: SPREADING THE MESSAGE

The Women's Election Manifesto has been widely shared across various platforms, sparking significant engagement on Twitter and in local and radio dialogues. The manifesto boldly calls for a commitment to equality throughout the electoral process and emphasizes the urgent need to promote inclusivity and amplify women's voices. Over the past 12 months, it has reached over 12 million people through local dialogues and radio programs, gaining visibility and igniting essential conversations on women's leadership and rights. This movement continues to challenge traditional power structures, advocating for a world where women's leadership is not only recognized but celebrated.

## E: ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN TANZANIA

WFT-T remains committed to seizing emerging opportunities to ensure that women's voices are integral to national plans. As the secretariat for the WCEL coalition, WFT-T led the coalition members to reflect on the implementation of the Tanzania Development Vision 2025, offering recommendations for improvements.

This leadership led to the appointment of a task force member to the technical committee, to ensure women's agendas are fully represented in the shaping of Vision 2050. This continued engagement underscores the coalition's dedication to ensuring that gender equality and women's empowerment are central to the nation's future development plans.



Photo: A collaborative meeting between WCEL and MKUKI coalition members, with discussions focused on women's rights and national development. ©WFT-T



Photo: A groundbreaking policy adoption by the Doris Mollel Foundation, enhancing care for mothers of premature babies in Tanzania. ©WFT-T

## F: WOMEN'S ELECTION MANIFESTO: SPREADING THE MESSAGE

The Doris Mollel Foundation has been at the forefront leading the Sexual Reproductive Health Coalition on the advocacy for mothers of premature babies, leading initiatives over the past four years to secure special care provisions for these mothers. On May 1, 2024, during Workers' Day, Dr. Philip Mpango, Vice President of Tanzania, officially announced the adoption of extended maternity leave for mothers of premature babies. This groundbreaking policy marks a significant victory in the ongoing struggle for women's health rights and reproductive justice. WFT-T is deeply committed to ensuring that this policy is fully enacted into law, holding systems accountable to the care, dignity, and well-being of mothers.

### 3.7 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNICATION

Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) is reshaping the funding landscape to ensure feminist movements and women's rights organizations (WROs) access sustainable, community-led, and transformative resources. By mobilizing funding and forging strategic partnerships, WFT-T prioritizes intersectional and movement-driven resourcing from grassroots to global levels.

Engaging in local, regional, and global funding spaces, WFT-T strengthens collaborations with feminist funds, WROs, and social justice movements to shift power and redefine funding frameworks. These efforts have led to three transformative partnerships: the RISE project for feminist research and advocacy, Porticus for gender-based violence (GBV) interventions, and Iles de Paix (IDP) to integrate feminist perspectives into agroecology in Northern Tanzania.

Strategic fundraising has secured critical financial commitments, including \$1.5M from the Hewlett Foundation (pending confirmation), \$400K for feminist funding and environmental justice, €80K for GBV interventions, CAD \$700K from RESEA (in final negotiations), and potential funding of 500M TZS from Vodacom.

WFT-T challenges extractive, patriarchal financing models by advancing feminist-driven funding rooted in economic justice, bodily autonomy, and collective care. Through solidarity and movement-led resource mobilization, WFT-T ensures feminist organizing remains well-resourced, resilient, and powerful in dismantling oppressive systems and advancing liberation.

#### Communication and media highlights

Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) remains committed to amplifying feminist narratives, strengthening movement-building, and uplifting the work of its grantees and partners. Recognizing storytelling as a tool for gender justice, WFT-T prioritizes feminist communication, documentation, and knowledge production.

During this period, WFT-T published five newsletters showcasing grassroots feminist activism, featuring organizations such as Wote Sawa, Sauti ya Wanawake Ukerewe, and SUKITA. By centering movement-led storytelling, WFT-T keeps feminist struggles, victories, and lessons visible, inspiring solidarity and action.

As a feminist thought leader, WFT-T produces and shares accessible feminist content through videos, photo stories, and digital publications, deepening engagement with movements and coalitions. This has expanded WFT-T's reach, with growing engagement on social media and 60 newspaper articles, 27 TV programs, 22 radio features, and 18 blogs highlighting its work challenging patriarchal narratives and advancing systemic change.

WFT-T continues enriching its feminist resource center, acquiring new books, distributing over 400 publications, and preserving feminist histories. By archiving movement knowledge and driving feminist research, WFT-T ensures that intersectional feminist perspectives shape Tanzania's development agenda. Through strategic feminist communication, WFT-T amplifies women's voices, builds collective power, and sustains movement-building.



**27**

TV Programs



**22**

Radio Features



**18**

Blogs Articles

### Documented the work of its grantees

- Wote Sawa (Mwanza)
- Sauti ya Wanawake Ukerewe
- Lights for Domestic Workers (Morogoro, Kipunguni),
- WAJIKI & SUKITA (Dar Es Salaam)
- Door of Hope (Mtwara)
- MIMUTIE (Loliondo)

### WFT-T newsletter

The WFT-T newsletter has published 5 issues, highlighting key updates from its grantees and partners

### Instagram Reach

Our Instagram account has 8712 followers on Instagram, 1224 engaged accounts

### Twitter (X) Reach

We have 2,878 followers on Twitter (X) with 7.8K impressions, and a 70.3% engagement rate.

### Newspaper Features

WFT-T's work has been featured in **60** newspaper articles

### TV Program

WFT-T's work has been featured in **27** TV programs

### Radio Program

WFT-T's work has been featured in **22** radio programs

### Blog Feature

WFT-T's work has been featured in **18** blogs.

## Media Highlights 2024

### Feminist knowledge Books

# 83

Book Copies received

# 30 | 53

### Feminist knowledge distribution

# 413

Books and reports distributed

# 228

Copies of the Women Manifesto distributed

# 140

Copies of Women's Key Issues in the Constitution distributed

### Vision 2050 copies

# 200

vision 2050 copies distributed to women and community groups, children's rights groups, and WROs, youth groups.

### HerStory Books

# 15

Copies of HerStorybooks (WFTT) and "Tanzania Women, Our History, Our Nation" distributed

## 4.0 SUSTAINABILITY OF STRONG AND HEALTHY WOMEN'S FUND

The successful implementation of the 2024 Annual Work Plan marks a significant milestone in WFT-T's journey of resourcing feminist movements, strengthening institutional capacities, and deepening collective impact. As we celebrate 15 years of transformative feminist funding and movement-building, the Secretariat remains committed to leveraging lessons learned to sustain and expand our impact.

Recognizing that feminist organizing requires continuous learning and capacity strengthening, WFT-T has prioritized staff development through both in-person and virtual training sessions. These sessions have focused on: Salesforce training to enhance organizational efficiency; Online archiving and documentation to strengthen feminist knowledge management; Feminist leadership and mentorship, reinforcing movement-centered leadership models that challenge hierarchical structures.

Additionally, two staff members engaged in an exchange learning program with Zoexe Women Fund, fostering experience-sharing, solidarity, and cross-movement learning. These engagements reflect WFT-T's commitment to deepening feminist leadership practices and building a strong, well-resourced feminist funding ecosystem. Accountability remains central to WFT-T's feminist funding principles. To uphold financial integrity and transparency, WFT-T conducted its annual financial audit, ensuring compliance, effectiveness, and the ethical use of resources. This commitment to financial accountability strengthens the trust and confidence of grantees, partners, and feminist movements, reinforcing WFT-T's role as a reliable and transformative funding partner.

Therefore, as WFT-T moves forward, the Secretariat remains dedicated to: Embedding feminist values in every aspect of organizational development; Enhancing staff capacities to strengthen feminist grantmaking and movement support; and Fostering cross-movement collaboration to sustain feminist organizing and advocacy. By centering intersectionality, collective care, and movement-building, WFT-T continues to pave the way for a feminist funding model that is transformative and accountable to the feminist movements it serves.



## 4.1 CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

Throughout the year, Women's Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) encountered various challenges but remained steadfast in its commitment to resourcing feminist movements, advancing women's rights, and strengthening feminist organizing in Tanzania. Recognizing that challenges are inherent in transformative feminist work, WFT-T developed intentional, movement-driven strategies to navigate these obstacles and sustain its impact. These challenges included:

01.



The evolving funding environment created financial constraints, limiting WFT-T's ability to fully meet grantee expectations and address the urgent needs of grassroots feminist movements.

02.



The ongoing review of the 1971 Marriage Law posed risks of regressive legal changes, threatening hard-won gains in women's rights and legal protection against child marriage.

## 4.2 LESSONS LEARNT

- **Flexibility and Patience:** Successful feminist work requires adaptability and patience, with continuous investment in collaborative learning.
- **Community-Centered Approach:** Building strong, consistent relationships with local communities ensures that initiatives remain rooted in the leadership and needs of those they serve.

## 4.3 FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

- **2025 General Election:** The upcoming election presents a key opportunity to amplify women's voices, leadership, and participation in the political process.
- **Tanzania's 2050 Vision:** This national development framework offers a chance to ensure that women and girls influence policies that promote inclusive, equitable development.
- **Legal Advocacy:** Gaps in the legal framework offer ongoing opportunities to push for reforms that protect the rights of women and children, fostering a more just society.



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Empowering Local Women Heroes

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